

**REMARKS**

This is in response to the final Office Action mailed January 30, 2004, in relation to the above-identified patent application. In that Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-27 as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

Also, the Examiner objected to claims 1-8, 10-19, and 21-27 as being anticipated by Gostling, U.S. Patent No. 3,998,562.

The Examiner notes that claims 9 and 20 were not rejected on art but would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, by removing the new matter and to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Limitations of claim 20 have been incorporated into claim 1 and 25, and therefore is allowable, and all other dependent claims are also allowable.

Limitations of claim 9 and all intervening claims have been incorporated into new claim 28, and is therefore allowable.

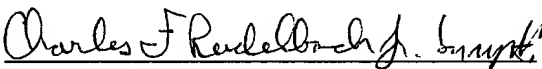
**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing it is respectfully submitted that all of the pending apparatus claims of the present invention have been amended to particularly define the unobvious structure of the present invention. It is respectfully submitted, that, as amended, all of the pending claims of the subject patent application are in condition for immediate allowance. A reconsideration and allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

HIGGS, FLETCHER & MACK LLP  
Attorneys for Applicant

Dated: July 30, 2004

  
Charles F. Reidelbach, Jr., Esq.  
Registration No. 36,649

401 West A Street  
Suite 2600  
San Diego, CA 92101  
Telephone: 619-236-1551  
Facsimile: 619-696-1410  
E-Mail: reidelbach@higgslaw.com